



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center
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October 2, 1989

RP:0112

Mr. Manabu Tagomori
Deputy Director
Commission on Water Resource Management
Department of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Dear Mr. Tagomori:

William Fisher's Petition
to Amend the Interim Instream Flow Standard
for East Maui Streams
and
Application for a Diversion Works Permit
to Develop an Unnamed Freshwater Spring Near Waipio Bay
Haiku, Maui, TMK: 2-9-7:17

The above referenced document proposes to withdraw water from a spring on the face of a pali located directly above the ocean. The water is to be pumped to the applicant's property above the pali for the purposes of irrigation and possible residential use. The review of this petition was conducted with the assistance of Harriett Kessinger-Lee of the Environmental Center.

We note two areas of concern as follows:

- 1) Possible contamination of the water for residential use. If the water is indeed to be used for residential purposes we recommend it be quality tested for consumer protection as it may be or become contaminated with agricultural chemicals percolating into the spring water from the land above.
- 2) We received a copy of the letter to you, dated September 5, 1989, from James Parrish of the Hawaii Cooperative Fishery Research Unit and wish to express our concurrence with his comments. A site inspection by an expert in fishery or freshwater biology should be

Mr. Manabu Tagomori

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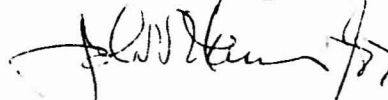
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considered. The sensitive nature of stream diversion issues and their ensuing impacts warrants extreme caution. As Dr. Parrish points out, "at this stage of stream water management, precedent is very important", and the rationale for granting an amendment to the interim instream flow standard should be "clearly stated".

We appreciate the clear presentation of this petition, and commend the preparers for their use of such well-defined maps and diagrams.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Miller', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jacquelin Miller
Associate Environmental Coordinator

cc: OEQC

L. Stephen Lau

James Parrish

Harriett Kessinger-Lee